

maid and mistress ; and, looking in the direction of the sound, they saw a wreath of smoke rolling swiftly along the surface of the water, to leeward of the frigate, looking like a cloud fallen from the skies on the bosom of the blue ocean.

At this moment the head of Mr. Fielding appeared, as he climbed over the edge of the bluff, closely followed by Pedro.

"My glass, bring the glass, Mary !" he shouted to his daughter as soon as he regained his feet.

She instantly obeyed him, hastening from the house to carry it to him, notwithstanding the ejaculations of Hetty, that if they went one step nearer the sea they would "hall be killed, and then who'll see Lonnon ?"

Mr. Fielding no sooner placed the glass to his eye, than he said,

"She has fired to bring that schooner to, to leeward ; and there is a flash ! that is another gun for the same purpose ; for I can distinctly see the spout of the water as the shot struck it astern of the schooner. She is a large frigate, and carries heavy metal, by the way her guns speak. The schooner must be a Yankee !"

"Or perhaps one o' our own craft, sir," observed the Manager, who was peering over Mr. Fielding's shoulder with his eye run along the barrel of the telescope, as if he could thereby be assisted in seeing. "It was to report to ye, sir, the fact that I had discovered the frigate out in the offing from the turret o' the warehousc that I hastened hither to tell ye, suspicioning ye had na' seen it, an' fearin' it might be a deengerous neighbour, and shoul' be weel looked to. Ken ye its flag, sir ?"

"No, but I'll wager she is John Bull."

"Thin it's expedient, sir, we get the people together to get the wares and goods up the river farther, oot o' the reach o' their boats, whilk'll be speerin aboot seekin' what they may devoor."

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